FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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The Department of Public Health and Social Services Official Entity for Release of Information for Novel Influenza A (H1N1) [Swine Flu]

As confirmed cases of Novel Influenza A (H1N1) [Swine Flu] continue to be reported both globally and nationally by the Centers for Diseases of Control (CDC) and the World Health Organization (WHO), the Department of Public Health and Social Services (DPHSS) continues to monitor any suspected cases locally. To date, Guam does not have any suspected or confirmed cases of Novel Influenza A (H1N1). Locally, there are cases of seasonal flu that are presenting to island clinics; however, those cases, by CDC definition do not meet the criteria for a suspect case of Novel Influenza A (H1N1) [Swine Flu].

DPHSS provided local clinics, physicians, and the Guam Memorial Hospital Authority with clinical guidance for treating and preventing Novel Influenza A (H1N1) in an effort for clinicians to differentiate between patients with seasonal flu and those cases that may be probable swine-origin H1N1 virus.

DPHSS continues to monitor the global and local situation with regards to suspect, probable, and confirmed cases of Novel Influenza A (H1N1). All health care providers and laboratories are requested to report all suspect cases to DPHSS who is the official entity to receive case reports. Be assured, DPHSS will inform the people of Guam when an official case report of Novel Influenza A (H1N1) [Swine Flu] is identified.

The Department of Public Health and Social Services will remain vigilant and stay current with the latest updates from the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and the World Health Organization (WHO) to keep residents informed with the latest information about Novel Influenza A (H1N1).

For more information, please visit the Centers for Disease Control Website at www.cdc.gov, the Department of Public Health and Social Services website at www.dphss.guam.gov or Guam Homeland Security/Office of Civil Defense website at www.guamhs.org. You may also call the Information Line at 735-H1N1 (4161).